

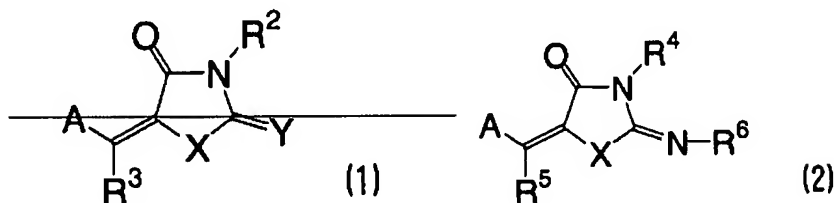
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A photosensitive composition containing:

(A) a sensitizing dye represented by the following formula ~~(1)~~(2):



~~wherein A represents an optionally substituted aromatic or heterocyclic ring; X represents an oxygen atom; Y represents N(R¹); R¹, R², and R³ each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent non-metallic atomic group; and A and R¹, R² or R³ may be bonded to each other to form an aliphatic or aromatic ring~~

wherein A represents an optionally substituted aromatic or heterocyclic ring; X represents an oxygen atom; R⁴ and R⁵ each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent non-metallic atomic group; R⁶ represents a substituted aryl group, wherein the substituent group in the substituted aryl group is selected from the group consisting of an ester group and a cyano group, and wherein the sum of the Hammett's values on the substituent group(s) of the

substituted aryl group is greater than 0; and A and R⁴, R⁵ or R⁶ may be bonded to each other to form an aliphatic or aromatic ring;

(B) an initiator compound capable of generating a radical, an acid, or a base; and

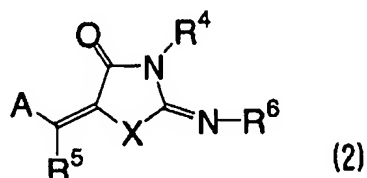
(C) a compound whose physical or chemical characteristic irreversibly changes by at least one of a radical, an acid, and a base,

wherein the initiator compound (B) is a hexaaryl biimidazole.

2. (original): The photosensitive composition according to claim 1, further containing (D) a binder polymer.

3. (original): The photosensitive composition according to claim 1, further containing (E-1) a cosensitizer.

4. (currently amended): A compound represented by the following formula (2):

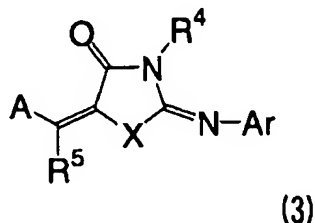


wherein A represents an optionally substituted aromatic or heterocyclic ring; X represents an oxygen atom; R⁴ and R⁵ each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent non-metallic atomic group; R⁶ represents a substituted aryl group, wherein the substituent group in the substituted aryl group is selected from the group consisting of an ester group and a cyano

group, and wherein the sum of the Hammett's values on the substituent group(s) of the substituted aryl group is greater than 0; and A and R⁴, R⁵ or R⁶ may be bonded to each other to form an aliphatic or aromatic ring.

5. (currently amended): A photosensitive composition containing:

(A-1) a sensitizing dye represented by the following formula (3):



wherein A represents an optionally substituted aromatic or heterocyclic ring; X represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or -N(R¹)-; R¹, R⁴ and R⁵ each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent non-metallic atomic group; A and R¹, R⁴ or R⁵ may be bonded to each other to form an aliphatic or aromatic ring; and Ar represents an aromatic ring or heterocyclic ring having at least one substituent group selected from the group consisting of an ester group and a cyano group, provided that the sum of the Hammett's values of the substituent group(s) on the Ar skeleton is greater than 0;

(B-1) a hexaaryl biimidazole; and

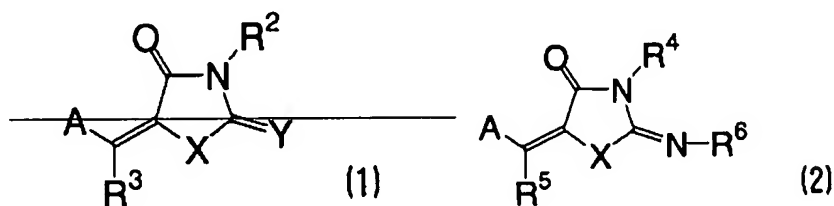
(C-1) an addition polymerizable compound capable of being reacted by at least one of a radical, an acid and a base.

6. (original): The photosensitive composition according to claim 5, further containing
(D) a binder polymer.

7. (original): The photosensitive composition according to claim 5, further containing
(E-1) a cosensitizer.

8. (currently amended): A photosensitive composition containing:

(A) a sensitizing dye represented by the following formula ~~(1)~~(2):



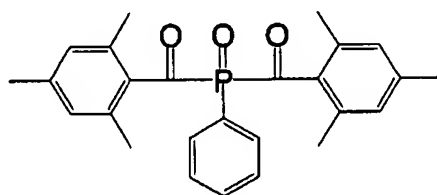
~~wherein A represents an optionally substituted aromatic or heterocyclic ring; X represents an oxygen atom; Y represents N(R¹); R¹, R², and R³ each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent non-metallic atomic group; and A and R¹, R² or R³ may be bonded to each other to form an aliphatic or aromatic ring~~

wherein A represents an optionally substituted aromatic or heterocyclic ring; X represents an oxygen atom; R⁴ and R⁵ each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent non-metallic atomic group; R⁶ represents a substituted aryl group, wherein the substituent group in the substituted aryl group is selected from the group consisting of an ester group and a cyano group, and wherein the sum of the Hammett's values on the substituent group(s) of the

substituted aryl group is greater than 0; and A and R⁴, R⁵ or R⁶ may be bonded to each other to form an aliphatic or aromatic ring;

(B) an initiator compound capable of generating a radical, an acid, or a base; and
(C) a compound whose physical or chemical characteristics irreversibly change by at least one of a radical, an acid, and a base,

wherein the initiator compound (B) is



(A-2)

9. (canceled).

10. (new): The photosensitive composition of claim 1, wherein the substituent group in the substituted aryl group is present at an ortho position on the substituted aryl group skeleton.

11. (new): A lithographic printing plate precursor comprising a photosensitive layer containing the photosensitive composition according to claim 1.